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NOTE VERBALE DATED 16 FEBRUARY 1993 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Secretary-General presents his compliments to the President of the Security Council and, in accordance with paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 781 (1992), has the honour to bring to his attention further information received by the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) regarding apparent violations of the ban on military flights in the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Between 11 and 14 February 1993, there appear to have been six flights of fixed- or rotary-wing aircraft in the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina other than those exempted in accordance with paragraph 1 of resolution 781 (1992) or approved by UNPROFOR in accordance with paragraph 3 of that resolution. In addition, there was one more flight falling within the reporting period of 8 and 10 February. Details as to the time and the itinerary of these flights are attached as annexes I and II to the present note verbale.

All confirmed violations were immediately protested by UNPROFOR to the party concerned.

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Annex I

Information on flights in the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina not authorized by the United Nations Protection Force

(11-14 February 1993)

Serial No.	Date	Start	End	Remarks	Heading, speed, altitude
438	11 Feb	1347	1442	United Nations military observers at the Area Control Centre in Belgrade detected a track, probably of a helicopter, entering the no-fly-zone approximately 60 nautical miles south-west of Belgrade flying south-west towards Sarajevo. The aircraft was tracked for 11 minutes and faded from radar coverage at a hilltop 25 nautical miles north-east of Sarajevo in the area north of Sokolac.	South-west 100 kts unknown
439	11 Feb	1432	1442	AWACS detected a track, probably of a helicopter, 40 nautical miles south of Sarajevo in the vicinity of the airfield at Gacko. The aircraft was tracked for 10 minutes heading south-west and faded from radar coverage in the area of the town of Bileca.	South-west 130 kts unknown
440	11 Feb	1611	1617	AWACS detected a track, probably of a helicopter, 40 nautical miles south-west of Banja Luka in the vicinity of the airfield at Titov Drvar. The aircraft was tracked for 5 minutes and faded from radar cover approximately 10 nautical miles north-east of the town of Titov Drvar.	North-east 120 kts unknown
441	12 Feb	0815	0929	An MI-8 MEDEVAC flight was approved to take casualties from Knin to Banja Luka hospital. Before take-off an officer of the Territorial Defence Force, together wtih a member of the Serbian press, who were not authorized to fly, were seen to board the aircraft. At 40 nautical miles south-west of Banja Luka, the aircraft deviated from its route and faded from AWACS coverage for 20 minutes. At Banja Luka, United Nations military observers observed seven casualties deplaning, but the Territorial Defence Officer and the member of the Serbian press were not on board and seem to have been dropped off while the aircraft was not under radar coverage.	North-west 103 kts unknown

Serial No.	Date	Start	End	Remarks	Heading, speed, altitude
442	13 Feb	1126	1134	AWACS detected a track, probably of a helicopter, 35 nautical miles north-east of Tuzla in the vicinity of Prnjavor. The aircraft was tracked for 5 minutes as it flew west, entered the no-fly-zone, overflew the city of Bijeljina and faded from radar coverage 5 nautical miles west of the city.	North-west 120 kts Low
443	13 Feb	1256	1303	AWACS detected a track probably of a helicopter, 40 nautical miles east of Banja Luka in an area 10 nautical miles north-east of Doboj. The aircraft was tracked for 7 minutes orbiting in the same general area before fading from radar coverage.	Orbiting 100 kts Low

[14 Feb: no violations reported]

Annex II

Information on flights in the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina not authorized by the United Nations Protection Force

(Addition to 9 February 1993)

Serial No.	Date	Start	End	Remarks	Heading, speed, altitude
444	9 Feb	1510	1620	A Gazelle helicopter departed Banja Luka Zaluzani airfield for an alleged CASEVAC mission to Bosanski Petrovac. The helicopter was inspected by United Nations military observers prior to departure from Zaluzani. It was not armed and carried two crew members. It was not, however, inspected after landing as the United Nations military observers were not informed of its arrival time. This flight failed to conform to the guidelines for CASEVAC flights and is, therefore, considered to be a violation of the no-fly-zone.	unknown